

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This application contains claims 1 through 17. Claims 10, 11 and 14 through 17 have been withdrawn due to an election of species requirement, but are to be rejoined upon a finding that the elected group of claims is allowable. Claims 12 and 13 have been allowed.

Claims 1 through 9 remain rejected under 35 USC Section 102(b) as being anticipated by certain examples of U.S. Patent No. 4,086,251 to Cengel et al (hereinafter "the Cengel et al. patent"). Applicants addressed this rejection in their prior Amendment dated July 11, 2006, and the distinguishing comments presented therein are incorporated herein by reference.

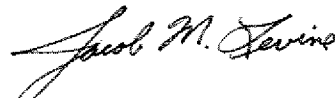
A personal interview was conducted with the Examiner on January 22, 2007 and applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to their representative. During the interview, the issue of whether the olefin polymers of the Cengel et al. patent would inherently have the required terminal vinylidene content of at least 30% was discussed. It was noted that, while applicants had argued that such polymers would not, no published document or test data was provided in support. In the absence of such evidence to the contrary, the position regarding inherency was maintained.

To provide the requested data demonstrating that the polymers of the Cengel et al. patent cannot be assumed to inherently provide the requisite terminal vinylidene content of the present claims, applicants submit herewith the Declaration of Dr. Jacob I. Emert, a named co-inventor of the subject matter of the present application. The Declaration provides NMR Spectra (and associated olefin distribution data) for polyisobuylene products polymerized in the presence Friedel-Crafts catalysts (AlCl_3 and EADC (ethyl aluminum dichloride)). As is clearly shown, while Friedel-Crafts polymerized products are "largely monolefin" and have unsaturations "predominantly in the terminal or near terminal group", which group is "of the trisubstituted or vinylidene type", as described in the Cengel et al. patent, such polymers, at the same time, have relatively low terminal vinylidene contents (5.6% and 7.0%). Thus, it is apparent that the polymers of the Cengel et al. patent cannot be considered as inherently having, and actually will not have, terminal vinylidene contents of 30% or more. As was previously noted, high terminal vinylidene contents are indicative of cationic polymerization in the presence of, for example, a BF_3 catalyst.

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Reply to Office Action of October 12, 2006

Based upon the foregoing, applicants submit that the Cengel et al. patent fails to anticipate the invention as presently claimed and therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1 through 9, presented under 35 USC Section 102(b), be withdrawn and the application now be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jacob M. Levine".

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